

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) Modified TNF, ~~comprising a polypeptide having~~ consisting essentially of TNF biological activity covalently bound to PEG molecules having an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of 15,000 to about 40,000 wherein said ~~biological activity of said polypeptide comprises the ability to kill~~ TNF kills METH A tumors *in vivo*.
2. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said ~~polypeptide having TNF biological activity~~ through a biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of 20,000 to about 30,000.
3. (Previously presented) The modified TNF of claim 24 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl succinate, succinimidyl propionate, and N-hydroxy succinimidyl.
4. (Original) The modified TNF of Claim 2 wherein said linker is selected from the group consisting of succinimidyl succinate, succinimidyl propionate, and N-hydroxy succinimidyl.
5. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said ~~polypeptide having TNF biological activity~~ is TNF- α .

6. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said ~~polypeptide having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ is isolated human TNF.

7. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said ~~polypeptide having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ is recombinant human TNF.

8. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of Claim 1 wherein said ~~polypeptide having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ is human TNF mutated by deleting amino acids 1-9 of the mature TNF protein.

9-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the circulating half life of a ~~polypeptide~~ ~~having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ while reducing its toxicity comprising modifying said ~~polypeptide having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ by covalently bonding to it PEG molecules having an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of 15,000 to about 40,000 wherein said ~~biological activity of said polypeptide comprises the ability to kill~~ TNF kills METH A tumors *in vivo*.

15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 14 in which said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on said ~~polypeptide having~~ TNF ~~biological activity~~ through a

biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of 20,000 to about 30,000.

16. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing the tumoricidal activity of ~~a polypeptide having TNF biological activity comprising~~ consisting essentially of modifying said ~~polypeptide having TNF biological activity~~ by covalently bonding to it PEG molecules each molecule having an approximate molecular weight of 20,000 to 30,000 wherein said ~~biological activity of said polypeptide comprises the ability to kill~~ TNF kills METH A tumors *in vivo*.

17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16 in which said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on ~~said polypeptide having TNF biological activity~~ through a biocompatible linker and where said PEG has an approximate weight average molecular weight in the range of 20,000 to 30,000.

18-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) The modified TNF of claim 1 wherein said PEG is covalently bound to primary amine groups on ~~said polypeptide having TNF biological activity~~ through a biocompatible linker.